Below is a project for North Carolina that was included at my request in the Fiscal Year 2008 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill (<u>H.R. 2829</u>). That bill eventually formed part of the end-of-the-year Consolidated Appropriations Act (<u>Public Law 110-161</u>).

Project: Rural Ventures Fund

Funding: \$ 282,000

Description: Funding to support the Rural Ventures Fund at the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, a new initiative to provide investment capital to small businesses in rural and underserved areas of North Carolina.